

The Wilson Monument is located below the inn on Trail 4. George Donaldson, who owned the land at that time made the monument to honor Alexander Wilson, an early ornithologist. They did not know each other; Donaldson just respected the work done by Wilson.

Prairie plants may be found in several locations throughout the park. Periodic controlled burns help renew and protect these ecosystems so the native plants continue to bloom and grow.

Wildlife in the park includes white-tailed deer, coyotes, red and gray foxes, raccoons, skunks, wild turkeys, great blue herons, kingfishers and wood ducks.

Another attraction at Spring Mill State Park is a memorial to Virgil I. "Gus" Grissom, located adjacent to the park gate. The museum houses the Gemini III capsule and spacesuit, plus many other items related to Grissom and NASA.

THIS IS YOUR PARK

Visitors shall observe the rules, which are designed to fulfill the purpose for which state parks were established, namely, to preserve a primitive landscape in its natural condition for the public's use and enjoyment.

DNR PROPERTIES NEARBY

- Starve Hollow SRA-hike, bike, picnic area, playground, interpretive center, fishing, swimming, boating, boat/kayak rentals, camping, rent-a-camp cabins, campstore
- Martin State Forest-camping, fishing, hiking trails, hunting, mountain biking, picnic area, play/sports area, trapping, shelter house
- Hemlock Bluff Nature Preserve-hiking trail, parking

Pick up an Indiana Recreation Guide for more information.

Please let wild animals remain wild.

Feeding deer is prohibited. Feeding of wild animals can result in harm to both animals and people. Animals who depend on handouts become a nuisance to visitors and a danger to themselves. Please lock up all food and coolers inside cars or campers. Roll up car windows tightly.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

- Do not injure or damage any structure, rock, tree. flower, bird or wild animal within the Park. Do NOT gather limbs, brush or trees (either dead or alive) for firewood because they rebuild the natural humus.
- · Any firearm (except validly licensed handguns), BB gun, air gun, CO₂ gun, bow and arrow, or spear gun in possession in a state park must be unloaded or unnocked and stored in a case or locked within a vehicle except when the owner is participating in an activity authorized by written permit.
- Dogs and cats must be attended at all times and kept on a leash no longer than 6 feet. Pets are not allowed
- in the Pioneer Village. Vending or advertising without permission of the
- Department of Natural Resources is prohibited. Camping is permitted only in the campground. Youth
- groups must be under adult supervision. Fires shall be built only in designated places.
- Please comply with the Carry In/Carry Out trash policy in all day-use areas. Overnight guests must put waste in receptacles provided for that purpose.
- Motorists shall observe posted speed limits, and park only in designated areas.
- Swimming is limited to places and times designated by the Department of Natural Resources.
- Drinking water should be taken only from pumps, hydrants or fountains provided for that purpose. This water is tested regularly for purity.
- Report lost or found articles to the park office.
- All motorized vehicles shall remain on paved roadway. Snowmobiles are prohibited.
- Use of metal detectors is prohibited.
- Park closes from 11 p.m. until 7 a.m. No one is allowed in the park between these hours except for campers using their sites.

For a complete list of rules and regulations, inquire at park office.

For a list of park events, visit interpretiveservices.IN.gov

DESCRIPTION OF TRAILS

TRAIL & DESCRIPTION DISTANCE DIFFICULTY

Trail 1 .375 miles Moderate Short loop from inn to foot of hill, along Donaldson

branch and lake, and returns up the hill to the inn. .5 mile

Connects village parking area to picnic area and Lakewview Activity Center.

2.5 miles Rugged Long loop trail. Enter near the Donaldson parking lot. Passes Donaldson Cave overlook, then through dense woods, past sinkholes, then Bronson Cave, on to Twin Caves, through giant timber of Donaldson's Woods Nature Preserve. Returns to Donaldson picnic area.

Trail 4 2 miles Rugged

Loop trail may be entered from Trail 4 at picnic area or junction of 1 and 4 near inn. Goes by the Wilson Monument, Donaldson Cave and Hamer Cemetery to the village.

Trail 5 1 miles Moderate

Loops around lake. Follows lower section of lake from bridge, then around to boat docks, near Trail 2, which leads to the picnic area and parking area.

Trail 6 .25 miles Accessible Paved trail. Loops around Virgil I. Grissom Memorial.

1.75 miles Easy

Loops through and around Oak Ridge picnic area. Ties into Trail 4 between Hamer Cemetery and village.

Rugged Stagecoach Trail .5 mile Follows old roadbed from village, up hill, to Oak Ridge picnic area and playground.

Mountain Bike Trail Beginner 2 miles

The trailhead is located near the campstore. Mountain bikes can be rented at the Camp Store. Bicycles permitted only on paved roadways. Skateboarding and inline skating prohibited.

PLEASE STAY ON MARKED TRAILS.

ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES

BIKE RENTAL-Rent a mountain bike to use on the designated mountain bike trail or on the hike/ bike lane around the park.

BOAT RENTAL—State-owned boats may be rented by the hour or day.

BOAT LAUNCH—Privately owned boats may be launched on lake. Only electric trolling motors, powered by no more than two 12-volt batteries, are allowed. A DNR Lake Permit is required.

CAMPING—Campground equipped with flush toilets, hot water and showers. Occupancy limited to 14 consecutive nights. Electricity, modern restrooms, hot showers, and dumping station available. Reservations available through the Central Reservation System.

CAMP STORE—Located near campground entrance. Firewood, ice and camp supplies for sale. TWIN CAVES BOAT TOURS—The ride goes approximately 500 feet into the cave, then turns around. Several interesting features may be seen on this tour. During heavy rain periods, the caves may be too flooded for tours. Tour times are set each morning. Plan to arrive half an hour before caves open.

FISHING-Bass, bluegill, trout and other small game fish. State license required.

GRISSOM MEMORIAL - The park's Virgil I. Grissom Memorial is a tribute to America's second man in space. "Gus" Grissom was a native of nearby Mitchell. His space suit and Gemini III space capsule are on display. Open daily, all year. No admission fee.

HIKING—One of the most popular activities at the park because of miles of moderate to rugged trails. **INN**—Open all year. All rooms have a private bath, telephone, color TV, and air conditioning. Dining room is open to all park visitors, serving a complete menu for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Indoor/outdoor pool and full conference facilities available. No pets allowed. Reservations available through the Inns website.

INTERPRETIVE NATURALIST SERVICE—Inquire at inn, park office or Lakeview Activity Center. Scheduled programs include hikes, cave tours, history talks and evening programs. Groups seeking groupspecific programs should call in advance. Program schedules available at InterpretiveServices.IN.gov or by calling (812) 849-3534.

PICNIC AREAS—Tables, grills, toilet facilities, playground equipment. Reservations for shelters available through the Central Reservation System.

PIONEER VILLAGE—Features grist mill and 20 log cabins staffed with various interpreters; pioneer log houses, Mercantile, apothecary, shoemakers, tavern, distillery, weavers, meeting house, pioneer garden, carpenter and blacksmith. No pets permitted in village.

SWIMMING-Olympic-size pool with pool house and wading pool. Swimming prohibited in other areas of the park.

CENTRAL RESERVATION SYSTEM



Reservations for all types of camping, family cabins, and shelters at state parks, reservoirs and forests can be made online or by calling toll-free.

Call: **1-866-6camplN** (1-866-622-6746)

Online: camp.IN.gov

Reservations for the Indiana State Park Inns and Inn-operated cabins can be made online or by phone. Call: **1-877-lodges1** (1-877-563-4371)

Online: Indianalnns.com

SPRING MILL INN



OPEN ALL YEAR

Rooms available. Dining room open to the public. Information toll-free: 1-877-977-7464 Reservations: 1-877-lodges1 (1-877-563-4371)

Online: Indianalnns.com Inn: 812-849-4508

FOR MORE INFORMATION



Write: Spring Mill State Park Box 376, 3333 S.R. 60 E Mitchell, IN 47446 Call: (812) 849-3534

Online: on.IN.gov/springmillsp

SPECIAL NOTE

Receipts from admission and service charges are used to help defray the operation and maintenance costs of the park. List of fees available in the main office.



Please carry out all trash you produce in order to keep your park clean and beautiful for others to enjoy!







See everything Indiana State Parks has to offer at stateparks.IN.gov.

OUTDOOR Subscribe to Outdoor Indiana magazine today, Visit OutdoorIndiana.org or call 317-233-3046.

The programs, services, facilities, and activities of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources are available to everyone. DNR prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information please write to: Department of Natural $Resources, Executive\ Office,\ 402\ W.\ Washington\ Street,\ W256,\ Indianapolis,\ IN\ 46204,\ (317)\ 232-4020.$ **DNR** Indiana Department of Natural Resources



Spring Mill State Park offers visitors many historic and natural wonders. The Pioneer Village, with its massive water-powered grist mill, and representation of pioneer tradecrafts and occupations, is a unique chance to step back in time. The existing grist mill was originally constructed in 1817. The majority of village restoration work was completed in the late 1920s and 1930s. The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) played an integral part in the repairs and reconstruction of the village along with other projects within the park, including Spring Mill Lake, various shelters, roads and trails.

Natural areas are featured at Spring Mill in three nature preserves: Donaldson Cave, Donaldson's Woods and Mitchell Karst Plain. George Donaldson came from Scotland and purchased a tract of forest in 1865. He did not allow cutting of timber or hunting. Thanks to his efforts we now have native trees more than 300 years old in Donaldson's Woods. Inside the Donaldson Cave ecosystem are Hoosier cave fish, an endangered species.

<u>:ateparks.IN.gov</u>